<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 have been amended to recite that a reception party uses the byte number for calculating data length information.

Independent Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 3 and 4, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective amended independent claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claims 3 and 4 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-6, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants, attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J. Farrell

Reg. No. 33,494 Attorney for Applicant

DILWORTH & BARRESE 333 Earle Ovington Blvd. Uniondale, New York 11553

Tel: (516) 228-8484 Fax: (516) 228-8516

PJF/MJM/dr